

From: Carlton Thiele
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 3:54pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

**10148 Reagan Dairy Trail
Bradenton, FL 34212**

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my opinion about the antitrust settlement that has recently been made between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. Microsoft has agreed to terms that extend well beyond the products and procedures that were at issue in the suit, for the sake of wrapping up the issue. It is obvious that Microsoft has done more than what was necessary on their part and the DOJ should follow suit. Not only has Microsoft provided businesses and homes with excellent products and service over the years they have also donated millions to charity and provided thousands of jobs. They should be allowed to continue on with business as usual.

The terms that Microsoft has agreed to are more than fair, and all litigation against Microsoft should be put to a stop. Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows, beginning with an interim release of Windows XP, to provide a mechanism to make it easy for computer makers, consumers and software developers to promote non-Microsoft software within Windows. In relation to this, Microsoft has also agreed not to retaliate against any designers and producers of software and hardware that competes with Windows.

It is clear that this issue needs to come to a close. Not only are the litigations wasting millions in tax dollars, but also it is affecting the IT industry and the economy.

Sincerely,

Carlton Thiele